

Letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives Transmitting a
Contingent Emergency Request for the Department of Homeland Security
May 22, 2003

Dear Mr. Speaker:

In accordance with provisions of Public Law 107-73, the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 2002, I hereby request and make available \$250 million for the disaster relief program of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

These funds would allow DHS to continue providing assistance for disasters in several States, including the recovery from damaging winter storms on the East Coast and recent tornado disasters in the Midwest. These funds also would be available for ongoing response to prior disasters and

to ensure that DHS has resources on hand to provide timely response to future disasters.

I designate these funds made available today as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended.

The details of this action are set forth in the attached letter from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget. I concur with his comments and observations.

Sincerely,

GEORGE W. BUSH

The President's News Conference With Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi
of Japan in Crawford, Texas
May 23, 2003

President Bush. Welcome. I'm honored to welcome my very good friend the Prime Minister of Japan to Crawford. He was a gracious host when I visited Japan, and Laura and I are pleased to return the hospitality.

We have met nine times during my Presidency. I know the Prime Minister well. I trust his judgment. I deeply respect his leadership. Our meeting today affirms the close and unique relationship between our two nations.

For the past half-century, America has been committed to the security of Japan and to the stability and prosperity of the entire Asia Pacific region. Japan and the United States have a global alliance, a partnership based on shared interests and a shared belief in the cause of freedom.

The Japanese Government demonstrated its commitment to peace and freedom, along with America, that Saddam Hussein's regime live up to its international obligations. I appreciate the Prime Minister's strong leadership on Iraq as well as Japan's diplomatic and financial support for key regional states affected by the conflict.

Today Japan is committed to playing a leading role in Iraq's long-term reconstruction, will also provide immediate assistance for schools, medical supplies, and sanitation. Japanese forces will provide logistical support for humanitarian and reconstruction activities. I thank the Prime Minister for his leadership.

Around the globe, Japan and America are addressing threats to our common security and meeting our common responsibilities. We are partners in the war on terror. In